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South Carolina State Library Board

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NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

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11th Issue

AIKEN-BARNWELL-EDGEFIELD REGIONAL LIBRARY

The initial steps in the organization of the Aiken-Barnwell-Edgefield Regional Library were taken at the first meeting of the Regional Library Board in Aiken, June 4th. Three representatives from the library boards of each participating county met together on that day and organized themselves as the new Regional Board. W.B.S. Winans of Aiken was elected chairman. Chosen vice-chairmen were Mrs. Ben P. Davies, Jr., of Barnwell, and Everette Derrick, of Johnston, and General Hugh Minton, of Aiken, was elected treasurer. Miss Josephine Crouch, librarian of the Aiken County Public Library, was appointed regional librarian and will also serve the board as secretary.

The regional library demonstration, which will officially begin July 1st, is expected to be the largest yet undertaken on the Eastern seaboard. It will serve a three-county area having a population of around 100,000 people and will operate on an annual budget of approximately \$100,000. It will mean the cooperation of two existing county libraries to achieve better service and the extension of good public library service to a county that heretofore has had none.

The members of the Regional Library Board are as follows:

Aiken County Library Board: W.B.S. Winans, Chairman; General Hugh Minton; R. C. Tisdale.

Barnwell County Library Board: Mrs. Ben P. Davies, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. W. C. Buist; Rev. Ernest Williams.

Edgefield County Library Board: Everette Derrick, Chairman; Mrs. J. F. Byrd; Mrs. Joe Miller.

EDGEFIELD COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD ORGANIZED

The newest county library board in South Carolina held its organizational meeting in Edgefield on May 22nd. At this time Everette Derrick, of Johnston, was elected Chairman of the Edgefield County Library Board. Serving with him will be Vice-Chairman, Mrs. B. L. Mims, Jr., of Edgefield; Secretary, Mrs. J. F. Byrd, of Edgefield; and Treasurer, Mrs. Hite Miller, of Trenton.

The Board was established by an act of the last General Assembly and is composed of a total of nine members who will serve staggered terms of from one to three years. Succeeding appointments will be for full three-year terms.

At the same meeting, representatives to the Regional Library Board were chosen. They are Mr. Derrick, Mrs. Byrd, and Mrs. Joe E. Miller, of Edgefield, Rt. 1. These three met with a like number of representatives from the Aiken and Barnwell County Library Boards to organize the Regional Library Board in Aiken on June 4th.

Other members of the new Edgefield County Library Board are Mrs. James E. Edwards, Jr., Johnston; Mrs. L. F. Holmes, Shady Rest, R.F.D.; Mrs. Joe Shaffer, Edgefield, Rt. 3; and Mrs. Charles H. Jones, Edgefield, Rt. 1.

POSTAL RATE INCREASE

The Congress recently passed and the President signed a bill providing for increases in postal rates as well as increases in salaries for postal employees. Of immediate concern to libraries is the fact that the book rate will rise to 9¢ on the first pound and 5¢ on each succeeding pound. The coverage of the book rate is being broadened, however, and in the future educational tests, sheet music, authors' manuscripts and academic theses will be included under book and library book rates.

The library book rate remains unchanged and libraries will be glad to know that it will no longer be necessary to obtain a permit in order to use this rate.

These changes will become effective August 1st.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION PROGRAM

Mrs. Florence Craig, Director of Adult Education, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio, will talk to the Public Library Section of SCLA at the convention meeting on Friday afternoon, October 30th. Her subject will be "Public Library Service, a Guide to Evaluation with Minimum Standards". In order to get full benefit from Mrs. Craig's address each librarian should read and study Public Library Service and its supplement, Costs of Public Library Service in 1956. If your library does not already own a copy of these, you should order them today. Both may be had for a total price of \$2.00 from the American Library Association, 50 East Huron Street, Chicago 11, Illinois.

CHARLESTON LIBRARY BUILDING

The exterior design of the Charleston County Free Library's new building, the object of considerable public controversy late last winter, is still undecided. W. W. Walker, Chairman of the County Council's Library Committee, said recently that more specific information on how the building is to be situated on its site in Marion Square and the materials available for use would be needed before the committee could intelligently consider protests against the proposed exterior.

The Charleston County Council approved several months ago a set of plans calling for a building of modern design. This immediately drew protests from persons and organizations who felt that it would not harmonize with its surroundings. A public hearing on the question was held March 31st, at which time twenty people spoke against the proposed design, and ten spoke in favor of it.

SPARTANBURG LIBRARY FLOODED

Heavy rains late in April put two feet of water in the children's room of the Spartanburg County Library. The room is located in the basement of the building.

Library officials blamed the water damage on grading work at the new courthouse which is being built within a few feet of the library building. Dirt graded from the courthouse is higher than the library lot.

A library spokesman said that county officials were asked for help but answered that since the courthouse work was under contract, the county could not interfere. Prison trustees were sent, however, to help bail the water out of the basement, and the Spartanburg Water Works loaned a pump to help with the job.

A COUNTY PLANNING COUNCIL

Have you considered asking the other heads of county and city departments, especially those engaged in direct public service - - like the health and welfare department heads, the home agent, the county agricultural agent, the forester, the recreation and education department heads, the juvenile judge, etc. - - to meet to discuss the various departments' plans and programs of work? This would give each of you a chance to hear in detail what goals the other departments are working toward and why. It might lead to cooperative and therefore stronger work toward some of these. It could also help to clear up areas of misunderstanding and to reconcile or compromise any conflicting aims. Most important, perhaps, from your viewpoint as a librarian, it should give you an opportunity to tell the others how the library can help them and at the same time will furnish you the specific information about their work that you need in order to be of real service.

The fact that you now have access through the State Library Board's Reference and Interlibrary Loan Service to great numbers of books not hitherto available should be a strong point in selling your library's information services to the other departments.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities for scholarships and fellowships for leadership training in liberal adult education are again being provided by the Fund for Adult Education 1959-1960. The objective is the improvement and advancement of leadership in liberal education for adults. Approximately twenty-five grants will be made to individuals for practical experience, university study, or combinations of the two, in liberal adult education. For the purpose of this program, liberal adult education is distinguished from remedial, vocational, technical, avocational and mental health education.

Each applicant is asked to propose the program he or she desires to follow. The award will be in an amount adequate for the recipient to accomplish the program of training and experience for which the grant is made, and may cover a period of from about four months to not more than twelve months.

A number of librarians who have received the study grants in the past proposed to work in libraries having good adult education programs, or to combine study with work in such a library. Several libraries have recently indicated their willingness to cooperate with such a program. The Office for Adult Education will provide their names upon request.

Applications for grants should be received by the Fund for Adult Education by October 14, 1958. Inquiries for further information and application forms should be addressed to LEADERSHIP TRAINING AWARDS, THE FUND FOR ADULT EDUCATION, 200 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, N. Y.

HOPE WHILE THE PLASTER FALLS!

Has a leak in the roof ruined your new Britannica? Do your library's walls threaten to tumble about your ears? Are you becoming claustrophobic in a jam-packed room which still tries to serve your growing community's needs? Well, do not despair - at least, not right this minute!

An interesting piece of proposed legislation is now in the hands of the Committee on Banking and Currency. It was introduced by Rep. Brent Spence of Kentucky and has been heartily endorsed by Senator J. W. Fulbright and 13 other Senators.

As it now stands, the bill calls for financial assistance to the states "for the construction, repair and improvement...of essential public works and public facilities" INCLUDING public libraries! We await the fate of H.R. 11474! (Quoted from News Letter, Massachusetts Division of Library Extension, May 1958)

FIVE DAY INSTITUTE ON STATE AND REGIONAL LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

The Columbia University School of Library Science will sponsor an institute on state and regional library development, August 11 - 15, 1958. The purpose of the institute is to provide an analysis of the various state programs for public library development now going forward, including an examination of the uses of both federal and state financial aid. The members will discuss specific operating problems and difficulties of library "systems", and the relation of the existing programs to public library standards and objectives.

Because the institute is designed primarily for librarians directly concerned with the operation of revised or expanded public library programs, membership will be limited to 25. The group will meet for presentation and group analysis of specific programs and problems for two hours each morning and afternoon during the five days. The fee for the institute will be \$37.00.

Robert D. Leigh, Dean of the Columbia University School of Library Science, will serve as chairman of the institute. Librarians wishing to apply for membership in the institute should write to Robert D. Leigh, Dean, School of Library Service, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.

PUBLIC LIBRARY SECTION COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following Public Library Section Committees met last month to continue work on various projects:

Book Selection Committee	- May 17
Union Catalog Committee	- May 24
Workshop Committee	- May 31

The Executive Committee also met May 31 to make plans for the Section's program at the SCLA meeting.

GIRL SCOUT HELPERS

Four Senior Girl Scouts in Walterboro have earned their Service Badges by working 30 hours each in the Colleton County Memorial Library. Mrs. Thompson reports that the typing and other tasks performed by these girls have been a real contribution to the library.

WE CALL TO YOUR ATTENTION

The FPA Reporter. Librarians' awareness of the responsibility of the library to stimulate concern in world affairs has been quickened by the theme of the ALA San Francisco Conference. This national bulletin of coming events in world affairs programming, a free publication of the Foreign Policy Association, provides up-to-date information on materials and resources together with lists of speakers available, coming conferences, etc. The Spring 1958 issue includes a brief bibliography on trade and aid and notice of a list available from the Association. Address the Foreign Policy Association, 345 East 46th Street, New York 17.

Suggested Reading for the Family. A booklist prepared by Barnes and Noble to promote the idea of "Wake Up and Read." The main section, "Reading Aloud in the Family," was compiled by a committee of specialists from the staffs of the New York, Brooklyn, and Queens Borough public libraries. The second section is a comparison guide to dictionaries and encyclopedias for home use prepared by the publisher. For free copies, write to: Barnes & Noble, Inc., 105 Fifth Avenue, New York 3.

Social Security in the United States. A pamphlet issued by the Social Security Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1957.

Contents: The Background of Our Program; The Place of Social Security in American Life; Programs Under the Social Security Act; Other Programs Relating to Social Security. Ask your District Social Security Office for this.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Children's Book Week, traditionally the 3rd week in November, will be held the first

week in November from now on. The dates this year will be November 2 - 8, and the slogan again will be "Explore With Books".

YOUR PROBLEMS

by

Anne Library

Dear Anne:

I work at the circulation desk of a medium-sized library. The girl who works with me says that we should speak to and offer to help everyone who comes in the library. She says, too, that if someone asks for a book we should find it for him rather than telling him to look it up in the catalog.

I don't see any sense in this. I think that anyone who wants help will ask for it and that most people prefer to look around for themselves anyway. Besides, a person could wear herself out trying to help everybody who comes in the library.

We have argued about this for some time and finally decided to let you be the judge. Who is right?

Bent on Self-Preservation

Dear BOSP:

Sorry, chum, you lose on every count, and are you certain Self-Preservation isn't a pseudonym for Laziness? Certainly one of you should greet everyone who enters the library and find out whether he needs help or not. Never leave this to chance. And by all means stir yourself from that chair to find what people ask you for. Not many patrons know how to use a card catalog and one of your jobs is to help them. Another is to answer as courteously and fully as possible every reasonable question asked of you, whether by a patron who has come to the library or by one who telephones. You represent the library to these people, and don't forget that they pay your salary.

Dear Anne:

For over two years now I have been working in the library and haven't had a raise yet. All of us on the staff are unhappy about this and I have asked the librarian several times when we could expect one. She always goes over the budget with me when I ask, but winds up by saying that nobody's salary can be raised until the whole budget is increased. This is obviously ridiculous since some of the money allotted to other things could be reduced and the salary allotment increased, but she won't consider this.

Since she won't do anything about this, I thought I would take it up with the board. So the other day when I saw the treasurer of our board in the drug store, I tried to ask him

about it and he would not even discuss it.

I think I am getting the old run-around and am mad enough to quit. Do you think I should?

Abused

Dear Feeling-Sorry-for-Yourself:

By all means quit and save the board the trouble of firing you. In the first place, the composition of the budget is none of your business. This is the concern of the librarian and the board. In the second place, there are very few occasions when a staff member is justified in going to the board over the librarian's head and this is not one of them.

Even if it were, you did not approach the board in the right way. If, for example, you were certain that the librarian was embezzling funds, you should write to the chairman of the board stating your suspicions and giving proof of the charge. A carbon copy of the letter should be sent to the librarian. The board should then grant you a hearing in the presence of the librarian. The burden of the proof would rest on you in a situation like this and if you failed to prove your charge, your chances of continuing to work in that library or any other would be pretty slim.

So count yourself lucky to have a librarian as tolerant as yours and either shut up or get out.

Do you have a problem? Write to Anne Library. All answers will be made through the medium of this bulletin.

DO YOU HAVE ANY NEWS TO REPORT?

Send news of what is happening in your library to the State Library Board so that it may be reported in NEWS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIANS. This way you may exchange your ideas and experiences with others working for better public library service in South Carolina.

SEEN HERE AND THERE

Miss Lois Barbare planning an early summer vacation at Hunting Island.

Miss Estellene P. Walker lamenting the poor fishing at Pawleys Island.

Miss Kathleen Gilleland, Horry County Memorial Library, helping to organize the new library of the Coastal Carolina Junior College.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Erhardt announcing the adoption of a son. She was until recently Children's Librarian, Richland County Public Library. During the summer months

Mrs. William Foran, Dreher High School Librarian, will fill the position left vacant by Mrs. Erhardt.

The Lancaster County Library getting good use from the historical film, "Alice in Washington". The film was shown to the DAR, the Children's Story Hour Group, the Episcopal Sunday School, the Rock Hill Community Organization and ten public schools, all within five days!

Mrs. W. G. Smoak, member of the Calhoun County Library Board, confined to the Columbia Hospital.

Mrs. Ethel G. Bailey, of the Laura M. Towne Library, St. Helena Island, conducting a teen-age reading club.

The Carver Branch of the Timrod Library, Summerville, sporting a new coat of paint.

Sixteen Girl Scouts with two leaders, all in full uniform and with scissors in hand, arriving at the Colleton County Memorial Library. They spent the afternoon cutting out colored paper feathers to be used in head bands for members of the Indian Summer Reading Club which began May 31st.

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK - 1959

A letter from Mr. John S. Robling, Director of Public Relations for National Library Week, states that National Library Week will be observed during the week of April 12-18, 1959. National Library Week will again be sponsored by the National Book Committee in cooperation with the American Library Association.

DATES TO BE REMEMBERED

July 13 - 19	American Library Association, Public Auditorium, San Francisco, California
September 25 - 27	Southern Public Library Workshop, Florida State University, Tallahassee
October 23 - 25	Southeastern Library Association, Kentucky Hotel and Sheraton-Seelback Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky
October 30	Workshop, Public Library Section SCLA, Mrs. Florence Craig, Consultant and Guest Speaker
Oct. 31 - Nov. 1	South Carolina Library Association, Annual Meeting, Columbia Hotel, Columbia

"Yet who reads to bring about an end however desirable? Are there not some pursuits that we practise because they are good in themselves, and some pleasures that are final? And is not this among them? I have sometimes dreamt, at least, that when the Day of Judgment dawns and the great conquerors and lawyers and statesmen come to receive their rewards -- their crowns, their laurels, their names carved indelibly upon imperishable marble -- the Almighty will turn to Peter and will say, not without a certain envy when He sees us coming with our books under our arms, 'Look, these need no reward. We have nothing to give them here. They have loved reading.'" - Virginia Woolf. Common Reader. 2nd series, p. 295, "How Should One Read a Book?"